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S/N 09/777,631

PATENT#5
A/ntec
9124102IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | Kohrs | Examiner: | B. Snow |
| Serial No.: | 09/777,631 | Group Art Unit: | 3738 |
| Filed: | February 6, 2001 | Docket No.: | 6683.26USC1 |
| Title: | INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANT WITH REDUCED CONTACT AREA AND METHOD | | |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: TC3700, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on Sept. 23, 2002.



By: Michele Quaranto

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

VIA FACSIMILE
TC3700
703-872-9302

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 22, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application for patent as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claim 1 and add new claims 36-52 to read as set forth below:

1. (Amended) An implant for intervertebral fusion between opposing vertebrae, said implant comprising:

- an implant body having a first end and a second end spaced along a longitudinal axis of the body, said first end having a first diameter and said second end having a second diameter wherein the second diameter is larger than the first diameter; and